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East Germany

COUNTRY

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Activity in the Northern Portion of the Soviet Zone

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

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28 September 1954

25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED  
Information

25X1

1. A railroadman stated that a shipment of tanks and trucks was entrained at the Dranse railroad station at the Wittstock troop training grounds on 24 August 1954. The train departed toward Pritzwalk at 0100 on 25 August.
2. At 1635 on 4 September, a freight train which included 9 flatcars with sideracks, each carrying a T-34/85 tank, passed through the Wittstock railroad station. The train came from the direction of Dranse and proceeded toward Pritzwalk. 1
3. At noon on 9 September, a train carrying 8 x 122-mm field howitzers, approximately 20 trucks and 4 boxcarloads of troops was seen at the Fuerstenberg railroad station. The engine of this train was headed toward Neustrelitz. 2
4. On 18 September, the barracks installation on Kastaven Lake (2091) near Fuerstenberg was occupied by only a rear detail. No training was observed inside or outside of the installation.
5. On 18 September, the outer installations of the Ravenstrueck concentration camp (2032/83) near Fuerstenberg were only lightly occupied. No activity was observed in the installation and north of the Fuerstenberg-Lychen road. 3
6. At 1730 on 12 September, a shipment of about 10 AA guns, presumably of 37 mm, approximately 20 trucks including some carrying billeting equipment and 10 boxcars occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen on the through-track of the Neubrandenburg railroad station. The train was headed toward the east. Motor

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

7. Between 1630 and 1750 on 20 September, a large column passed through Falkensee. It consisted of 14 JS-3 tanks, 4 JSU-122 guns, 8 rocket launchers, 6 mortars, 18 x 57-mm AT guns, 24 armored personnel carriers with soldiers, 14 BA-64 armored scout cars, approximately 40 sidecar motorcycles, 3 radio cars, 9 field kitchens and approximately 45 trucks including some carrying soldiers or equipment. [redacted] 25X1

The column came from the direction of Doeberitz and proceeded toward Schoenwalde. Additional columns reportedly came from the direction of Doeberitz and proceeded toward Brieselang via Finkenkrug on the same day. Between 1600 and 1900, tanks and guns were seen on Highway No 103, en route toward Nauen-Boernicke. Between 0030 and 0230 on 21 September, low-level attacks were conducted in the area northwest of Falkensee, presumably by ground attack planes. At 0700 on 21 September, vehicles and steel helmets were reportedly fitted with symbols in the Paaren-Brieselang area. At 1100 on 21 September, the Doeberitz post was only lightly occupied. 25X1

8. At 1630 on 20 September, the following column left through the southern gate of the barracks installation west of Olympisches Dorf (2065) in Doeberitz and proceeded toward Wustemark:

12 T-34/85 tanks, 30 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, [redacted] an undetermined number of trucks towing AA guns of 37 and 76.2 mm, several trucks towing 120-mm mortars, approximately 40 trucks including some mounting heavy machine guns and others carrying soldiers, and 4 field kitchens. Some of the personnel carriers mounted heavy machine guns or twin-barreled AA guns. Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. At 1645, the following columns left the installation through the northern gate and proceeded toward Finkenkrug-Brieselang: approximately 40 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] towing 120-mm mortars, approximately 90 trucks with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and equipment, 4 field kitchens and several sedans occupied by a general and field-grade officers and [redacted] Some of the armored personnel carriers mounted heavy machine guns or twin-barreled AA guns. 5 25X1

9. On 15 and 18 September, the barracks installation in Drogen (2031) near Fuerstenberg appeared to be only lightly occupied. The windows of the quarters were closed. No heavy weapons, soldiers or vehicles were seen in the barracks area and in the training area north of the installation. 3 25X1

1. [redacted] Comment. The train on 24 August probably carried tank units of the 94th Cds Mtz Rifle Div which [redacted] returned to Schwerin [redacted] The train on 4 September may have also carried a tank detail of the abovementioned division or the 18th Mech Div. 25X1

SECRET

SECRET

- 3 -

25X1

25X1

25X1

2. Comment. The motor vehicle [ ] are believed to belong to the Second Gds Mech Army. According to the direction of drive, artillery units of the 9th Gds Tank Div, which returned from firing practices at a training ground, may have been seen.

25X1

3. Comment. On 13 September, the bulk of the 9th Sig Regt of the Second Gds Mech Army from the outer installations of the Ravensbrueck concentration camp, the 33d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 9th Gds Tank Div from the barracks installation on Castaven Lake and the 34th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 12th Gds Tank Div from the barracks installation in Droege were absent from their installations. This observation possibly is a first indication of the beginning of fall maneuvers of the abovementioned divisions.

25X1

4. Comment. According to motor vehicle [ ] the shipment involved light AAA units of the 9th Gds Tank Div, presumably elements which, according to other information, were entrained in Neustrelitz, and went toward Neubrandenburg on 26 July. [ ] The units may have conducted firing practices at Wustrow.

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5. Comment. Major elements of the 1st Mech Div transferred to the area northeast of Nauen, probably for major fall exercises. According to weapons observed with the elements which departed from the barracks installation west of Olympisches Dorf, the movement involved the bulk of the 35th and the 37th Mech Regts, which are permanently stationed in this installation. All tank turret [ ] observed belong to the 12th Gds Tank Div. Since the presence at Doeberitz of tank units of the division appears improbable and, according to the number of tanks, only the two tank battalions of the abovementioned regiments were observed, [ ]

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